

Remarks

In the Office Action, the Examiner requires a restriction to one of the following inventions, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121:

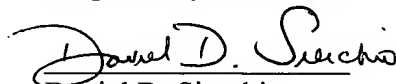
- Group I: Claims 26-28, drawn to a method of bonding, classified in class 156, subclass 308.2; and
- Group II: Claims 29, 30, and 43, drawn to a bonded structure, classified in class 428, subclass 304.4.

Applicants **hereby elect to prosecute Group II, Claims 29, 30, 43 and new claims 44-48**, in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute Claims 26-28 in one or more divisional applications claiming the priority benefit of the above-captioned Application.

In view of the above election, claims 29 and 30 are amended to remove the claim dependency on withdrawn claims 26-28. Claim 43 is amended to further clarify the claim language. In addition, claims 44-48 are added by this amendment to provide the Applicants with a more complete scope of protection. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 44-48 are directed to Group II of the present application as defined by the Examiner. No new matter is added by this amendment.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees related to the entry of this Reply to deposit account number 501358.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel D. Sierchio

Reg. No. 53,591

Attorney for Applicants

Lowenstein Sandler PC
Docket Administrator
65 Livingston Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068